

# Teacher Notes

## Lesson Plans and Handouts

This curriculum unit consists of teacher plans and student handouts for thirty-seven British literature lessons. It can be used in conjunction with any British literature textbook or anthology. Each lesson is designed for a class period of forty-five minutes. The Notes to the Teacher section can provide information for lectures. The handouts, numbered for quick reference, are intended for distribution to students. Some, however, lend themselves to effective use as transparencies for overhead projection. Usage of these materials can be adapted easily according to available equipment, student needs, and educational goals.

This unit is divided into five sections, designed to be taught sequentially. It approaches British literature chronologically, from Anglo-Saxon times to the late eighteenth century.

## Teaching Approaches

Since peer group interaction is important to the process of learning, many activities involve students in working with each other to fulfill specific goals. You may find it helpful to assign each student a regular partner and a regular small group of about five students. As students come to see small group work as an efficient and enjoyable classroom learning tool, they will readily adapt to it.

Equally important is the teacher's interaction with students as a large group, in small groups, and on a one-to-one basis. Frequency and variety of interaction facilitate learning and promote a confident educational atmosphere.

## Assignments

Both homework and classwork are elements of this course. While students are sometimes asked to complete activities outside of class time, they are also provided with opportunities to work in the classroom where teacher and peer resources are available for consultation. By assigning more or less homework, the teacher can modify the length of time required to complete the unit.

## Evaluation

Evaluation of student achievement in this unit can be accomplished in several ways. Many individual handouts and homework assignments can be collected and graded. In addition, individual lessons suggest follow-up activities. Review sheets at the end of each section help students determine topics requiring additional study.

## Primary Sources

In some instances where the literature to be examined within a particular lesson has not been included in this curriculum unit, authors have mentioned the sources they used when writing and revising each edition. However, these are by no means the only sources where these texts can be found. Your school and/or community librarian can assist you in locating these sources, or suggesting alternative ones. In addition, the Internet is a rich resource for literature, containing both copies of

primary texts and social and historical criticism. The following three sites are meant to serve as springboards into the vast amount of literary information on the Internet.

- Voice of the Shuttle: English Literature (University of California, Santa Barbara)  
<http://vos.ucsb.edu/shuttle/english.html>
- The English Server at CMU (Carneige-Mellon University)  
<http://english-server.hss.cmu.edu>
- The Poetry Archives  
<http://www.emule.com/poetry>